(c) **Name of the Exchange: MCX Ltd.**

Period: January 2009 to October 2009

Particulars		Value (in Rs)
Value of Deliveries on the Exchange in all contracts expiring during January 2009 to October 2009	1	1076.03 Crs.
Value of Open Interest on the date of expiry in all contracts expiring during January 2009 to October 2009	2	4602.84 Crs.
Value of contracts settled in terms of square-off (*i.e.* Open interest Value on expiry day which has not resulted in actual delivery)	3	3526.81 Crs.
Cash Settlement as % of total		76.62%
Delivery as % of total	4	23.38%

Proposals under National Food Security Bill

1734. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed National Food Security Bill has been finalised;

(b) if so, whether there had been initiative for discussion with all stakeholders in this regard;

(c) whether there would be any pruning of those in the BPL list; and

(d) whether those in the APL list would be excluded from the protection under this Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) to (d) At present, Government is examining various issues, including the extent of coverage of Below Poverty Line and other households, related to proposed National Food Security Act in consultation with various stake-holders.

Flouting of Government's order on sugarcane control

†1735. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on one side the price of sugar is continuously increasing and on the other side farmers producing sugarcane are not getting their cost price;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and whether it is not failure of Government policy;

(c) whether capitalists are openly flouting Central Government's order for Sugarcane Control, Sugarcane Purchase and Marketing Act of State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, and the steps taken by Government so far against those capitalists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) and (b) The lower than anticipated sugar production in 2008-09 sugar season and the estimated low production of sugar in the current sugar season has led to increase in sugar prices since the beginning of 2009. The Central Government fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for each sugar season based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and prices (CACP) taking into account various factors including the price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by producers of sugar. However, some sugarcane producing States fix their State Advised/Agreed price (SAP) of sugarcane higher than the SMP announced by the Central Government.

(c) and (d) Under the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 as amended from time to time, the powers for enforcing the provisions relating to payment of the cane price dues of cane growers by the sugar mills are delegated and vested with the State Governments concerned who have the necessary field organizations.

Unaffordable price hike for common man

†1736. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of foodgrains have become unaffordable for the common man;

(b) if so, the reasons for Government's inability to control it; and

(c) whether the rise in prices will be controlled soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) There has been an increase in prices of foodgrain items such as cereals, pulses and sugar. The Government has taken steps to protect poor sections of society through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Antodaya Anna Yojna (AAY). Under the TPDS, wheat, rice, coarse grains and kerosene are allocated to State Governments/UTs for distribution through the Fair Price Shops. The off take of wheat and rice under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been going up. For TPDS, wheat and rice off take have gone up from 296.52 lakh tonnes in 2004-05 to 348.45 lakh tonnes in 2008-09. During the period 2009-10 (up to August 2009), 183.07 lakh tonnes of wheat and rice has been allocated under TPDS.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.